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City of Lincoln Education Committee

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FORTY-SECOND

# ANNUAL REPORT

ON  
MEDICAL INSPECTION  
OF  
SCHOOL CHILDREN

BY  
M. L. BERY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer for the City of Lincoln*

=====

Year ended 31st December, 1949

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the work of the School Health Service during 1949, in connection with the health of the children attending Primary, Secondary Modern and Secondary Grammar Schools in Lincoln.

This is my Twentieth Report as School Medical Officer and it is the Forty-second of the Series.

The report is in accordance with the suggestions made by the Ministry of Education.

The various clinics provided were well attended and were of great assistance in looking after the health of school children.

The nutritional condition of the children continued to be keenly supervised by the School Health Service Staff and Head Teachers and their Staffs, and was satisfactory as compared with previous years.

The medical, nursing and other staff continued to impress upon the parents the need of seeking early medical advice for the ailments of their children.

The extent of the School Dental work was affected by our inability to obtain the services of a full-time Dental Officer at the School Dental Clinic.

It was also not found possible to obtain the services of a Psychiatric Social Worker or a Speech Therapist during the year.

I would like to thank all members of the Education Committee for their encouragement and support, the Chief Education Officer for his co-operation, and also the staff of the School Medical Department for their interest and devotion to their duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

M. L. BERY,

April, 1950.

School Medical Officer.

## SCHOOL POPULATION.

### Particulars of the number on register.

		1949	1948
Special, Primary and Secondary Modern.		.	.
Average number on Register	..	8073	7862
Secondary Grammar.		.	.
Average number on Register	..	1479	1477
		—	—
		9552	9339
		—	—

## THE STAFF.

The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer and close co-operation is being maintained between the School Health Service and the other Public Health Services under his control.

The Head Teachers and their staffs continued to co-operate fully in the work of the School Health Service.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The total number of Routine and Special inspections carried out was :—

		1949	1948
Routine	.. .. .. ..	1874	1729
Special	.. .. .. ..	9156	8097

## PROVISION OF SCHOOL CLINICS.

### At the School Clinic, Beaumont Fee.

Medical Clinics	Monday and Thursday afternoons.
Eye Clinics	Wednesday and Friday afternoons.
Minor Ailments	Every morning at 9 a.m.
Orthopaedic Clinic	By appointment.
Dental Clinic	By appointment.

### Other clinics.

St. Giles Junior School	Minor ailment clinic each morning 9 a.m.
Skellingthorpe Rd. Junior School	,, — ,, ,
Sincil Secondary Modern Boys	,, , ,
Sincil Secondary Modern Girls'	,, , ,

The Attendances at the various Clinics are summarised in the following table:—

### WORK OF SCHOOL CLINICS.

Minor Ailment Clinics :—	New Cases	Revisits	1949 Totals	1948s Total
Central Clinic .. ..	591	3526	4117	4617
St. Giles .. ..	497	4954	5451	4505
Skellingthorpe Road ..	693	4472	5165	4436
Sincil Boys .. ..	1033	7705	8738	8342
,, Girls .. ..	67	1583	1650	
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>2881</b>	<b>22240</b>	<b>25121</b>	<b>21900</b>
Medical Clinics .. ..	1021	638	1659	2146
Ophthalmic Clinics .. ..	857	690	1547	1707
Orthopaedic Clinics .. ..	294	3843	4137	3204
Dental Clinics .. ..	1778	2469	4247	5112
<b>TOTALS .. ..</b>	<b>6831</b>	<b>29880</b>	<b>36711</b>	<b>34069</b>

### FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

#### MALNUTRITION.

The following are the statistics in connection with nutrition of children at the Primary and Secondary Schools.

		1949	1948
Class A.—(Good) .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	28.8	42.1
Class B.—(Fair) .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	66.7	55.3
Class C.—(Poor) .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	4.5	2.6

The nutritional condition of the children was satisfactory as compared with the findings of previous years.

### UNCLEANLINESS.

Groups.	HEADS.			BODIES.		
	Clean.	Dirty.	%Clean.	Clean.	Dirty.	%Clean.
<b>ENTRANTS.</b>						
Boys ..	421	1	99.7%	421	1	99.7%
Girls ..	389	2	99.7%	391	—	100%
<b>INTERMEDIATES.</b>						
Boys ..	311	1	99.6%	306	6	98.1%
Girls ..	269	3	98.8%	272	—	100%
<b>LEAVERS.</b>						
Boys ..	183	1	99.4%	181	3	98.3%
Girls ..	293	—	100%	288	5	98.2%

Special attention continues to be given to cleanliness of heads and bodies.

### INCIDENCE OF PEDICULOSIS AND SCABIES.

#### (a) Pediculosis.

During the last five years the percentage of primary school children found to be suffering from pediculosis, however slight, was:—

1945 .. .	9.8%	1948 .. .	5.8%
1946 .. .	9.8%	1949 .. .	5.1%
1947 .. .	7.9%		

**(b) Scabies.**

The percentage of children suffering from scabies from 1933 to 1939 varied between 0·6% and 0·2%. The percentage was 1% during 1940, 2·3% during 1941, 4% during 1942, 5·8% during 1943, 4·5% during 1944, 3·2% during 1945, 2·5% during 1946, 1·5% during 1947, 2·1% during 1948, and 0·76% during 1949.

**RINGWORM.**

During 1949, there were 8 ringworm cases reported. It was found necessary to provide treatment by X-Ray in 7 cases.

During the last 10 years the numbers were as follows:—

1940	....	2	1945	....	16
1941	....	2	1946	....	15
1942	....	3	1947	....	9
1943	....	37	1948	....	5
1944	....	82	1949	....	8

At the end of 1949 there were no cases under treatment.

**VISUAL DEFECTS AND EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.**

The number of school children who were found to have some visual defect at Routine Medical Inspection was 122 as compared with 66 in the previous year.

The number of new cases seen at the Eye Clinic during the year was 283 as compared with 284 during the previous year.

The number of spectacles prescribed was 460 and in the case of 362 children spectacles were obtained.

Considerable delay in obtaining glasses, in a large number of cases, was experienced during 1949.

No. of clinics held	..	..	..	..	89
New cases seen	..	..	..	..	283
Old cases seen	..	..	..	..	569
Attendances at eye clinics	..	..	..	..	1547
Attendances for treatment by Nurses				..	1385

209 cases were referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeons as compared with 176 during the previous year.

**EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.**

The total number of children found to be suffering from enlarged tonsils or enlarged adenoids or enlarged tonsils and adenoids was 415 as compared with 430 during the previous year. This is a decrease of 15.

The total number of operations for tonsils and adenoids was 236 as compared with 452 last year. This is a decrease of 216.

All Ear, Nose and Throat operations were discontinued during September, 1949, on account of Polio Myelitis in the area and had not recommenced at the end of the year.

Middle ear disease was found to be present in 57 children, as compared with 59 in the previous year and 45 of these were referred for treatment.

Defective hearing was detected in the case of 34 children and 28 of these were referred for treatment. Figures for previous year were 33 and 24.

187 cases attended at the School Clinic during the year and were kept under supervision by the Assistant School Medical Officer. During the previous year this figure was 196.

453 cases were seen by the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon as compared with 511 cases during the previous year.

#### DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

			1949	1948
No. inspected (Routine age groups)	..	..	2809	7205
Referred for treatment	..	..	2119	2362
No. actually treated	..	..	1778	2103
Privately treated	..	..	34	29
Half days devoted to inspection	..	..	16	39
,, ,,, ,,, treatment	..	..	484	670
Fillings	..	..	801	1390
Extractions	..	..	1822	3074
General anaesthetics	..	..	1160	989
Other operations	..	..	1990	2878

The School Dental Officer left the School Health Service in December, 1948, and it was not found possible to fill this vacancy on a full time basis.

Fortunately it was found possible to obtain the services of a part-time Dental Officer to carry out 4—6 sessions each week as often as possible.

#### ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

		1949	1948
No. of sessions held by the Orthopaedic Surgeon	..	21	24
No. of cases seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon	..	172	204
No. of new cases seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon	..	90	107
No. of cases admitted to the County Hospital	..	4	19
No. of cases admitted to Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital	..	2	3
No. of cases admitted to Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital	..	2	3
No. of cases seen by the Orthopaedic Nurse	..	158	274
No. of treatments given by the Orthopaedic Nurse	..	2508	3204
No. of visits to homes by the Orthopaedic Nurse	..	—	5

There was only a part-time physiotherapist available during the year.

#### HEART DISEASE AND RHEUMATISM.

The number of children found at Routine or Special Inspections to be suffering from Heart Lesions was 41 as compared with 42 last year. These cases are kept under the supervision of the School Medical Officer and their attendance at school and the amount of exercise that they should take is regulated by medical advice.

In addition a Register of Rheumatism cases is kept at the Clinic. At the end of 1949 there were 10 children on the books as compared with 10 at the end of 1948. All children known to be suffering from Rheumatism are kept under supervision and examined periodically.

There is a special Heart and Rheumatism clinic held once a month at Lindum Road and during the year 40 school children were referred to the Specialist in charge as compared with 88 during the previous year.

This clinic is also the centre for investigation of acute rheumatism in children up to 16 years of age.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of Infectious Diseases whether notifiable or non-notifiable occurring amongst school children was 257 as compared with 962 in 1948.

The numbers of notifiable infectious diseases were:—

				1949	1948
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	27	56
Diphtheria	..	..	..	1	23
Chickenpox	..	..	..	186	442
Dysentery	..	..	..	—	2
Measles	..	..	..	12	336
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	27	94
Polio Myelitis	..	..	..	3	2
<b>Total</b>	..	..	..	<b>256</b>	<b>955</b>

The numbers of non-notifiable infectious diseases were:—

				1949	1948
German Measles	..	..	..	1	—
Mumps	..	..	..	—	7
<b>Total</b>	..	..	..	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>

There were no cases of Dysentery, Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Enteric Fever or Mumps during the year.

# CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES IN THE SCHOOLS.

1949.	Cases	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria		Measles.		German Measles.		Whooping Cough.		Chicken Pox.		Mumps.		Polio- Myelitis		Cerebro- Spinal Fever		Dysentery		Ringworm.		Impetigo.		Scarlet Fever.		Total Cases.		Total Contacts.		Grand Total.		
		Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	Cases	Cont.	
January ..	50	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	7	—	12	20	50	2	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February ..	45	6	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	3	45	4	49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
March ..	32	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	32	2	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
April ..	32	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	32	5	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
May ..	23	6	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
June ..	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
July ..	41	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	3	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
August ..	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
September	27	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October ..	28	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
November	24	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
December	18	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>TOTALS ..</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>48</b>

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOLS OF THE CITY  
DURING 1949.

Min. of Ed. Number	SCHOOL.	Ave'ge No. of School Chdn. on Register.	TOTAL	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Whooping Cough	Mumps	Measles	German Measles	Chicken- pox	Polio- Myelitis	Cerebro- Spinal Fever	Dys- entery	
1908			45	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N. 90/4			45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1.D.			424	38	2	1	2	—	—	34	1	1	1	—
1.E.			579	6	3	1	—	—	—	5	1	1	—	—
5			155	7	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—
6			701	22	—	—	—	—	—	39	8	—	—	—
6A			341	49	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
9			639	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10			111	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11			465	29	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19			866	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4			258	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13			160	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16			592	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17C			537	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18			187	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17A			323	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17B			802	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21			360	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19			332	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5257			369	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5304			323	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5288			495	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5258			292	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30,665			60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29,568			91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			9552	257	27	1	12	—	—	186	3	1	27	—

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Facilities were offered for Immunisation of school children at the School Clinic, at the schools and at other clinics under the Health Services.

Special sessions were conducted at school premises whenever a sufficient number of acceptances was received from a school.

The number of children between 5 and 15 years of age immunised during 1949 was 296, as compared with 243 during the previous year. In addition reinforcing doses were given to 1255 children during the year. In 1948, this number was 884.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

18 children were referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year as compared with 16 during the previous year.

The total number of individual school children who attended the Tuberculosis Clinic whether for supervision as definite cases or for observation with a view to diagnosis was 146 and these children made 274 attendances.

### CHOREA.

Chorea occurred in 2 as compared with 6 cases last year.

### RICKETS.

14 children were found to be suffering from Rickets as compared with 42 last year.

### LIGHT TREATMENT.

			1949	1948
No. of individual cases treated ..	..	..	136	225
Total attendances .. .. .. ..	..	..	1629	2445

### VACCINAL CONDITION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

During the year 23.6% of the School children were found to be vaccinated or protected against Smallpox as compared with 27.8% in 1948 and 22.5% during 1947.

Compulsory vaccination was abolished as from July, 1948, and the vaccinal condition of school children is being especially watched.

### “ FOLLOWING-UP.”

The method of “following-up” children found suffering from any defects was carried out in the same way as described in previous reports. Repeated visits, both to schools and to the homes, were paid with a view to seeing that effect was given to the remedying of defects.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the school nurses:—

No. of clinic sessions attended ..	..	..	..	..	244
No. of Follow-up visits:—					
(a) In school ..	..	..	..	..	12607
(b) At homes ..	..	..	..	..	214

## No. of special visits:—

(a) In school .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	214
(b) At homes .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	853

## Visits for vision testing:—

(a) No. of visits .. .. .. .. .. ..	72
(b) No. of children dealt with .. .. .. .. .. ..	2067

## Inspections for the presence of Pediculi:—

No. of visits to schools .. .. .. .. .. ..	250
No. of inspections of children .. .. .. .. .. ..	43325
No. of individual children found to be verminous however slight .. .. .. .. .. ..	456
Notices issued to parents .. .. .. .. .. ..	860

## PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The report on physical education for the year ended 31st July, 1949, is included in the report for that year of the Education Committee presented to the City Council.

## SCHOOL BATHS.

Open-Air School—8 Shower Baths.

St. Giles Secondary Modern School—8 Shower Baths.

South Park High School—Swimming bath. This is also used by children from Primary and other Secondary Schools, and by various youth organisations and other bodies.

## CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

The percentage of parents who attended at the medical inspection of boys was 75.8 as compared with 75.3 during last year and the percentage of parents attending medical inspection in the case of girls was 67.9 as compared with 71.2 last year.

## PROVISION OF MILK AND MEALS.

The scheme for the provision of dinners in schools has continued during the year, and dinners are now provided for all schools in the City.

The dinners provided during the year ended 31st December, 1949, and the previous year, were as follows:—

To Primary, Secondary Modern and Secondary Technical Schools .. .. .. ..	1949	1948
813,350	770,035	
45,733	49,723	
218,477	204,597	
8,825	10,578	
<b>1,086,385</b>	<b>1,034,933</b>	

The four Grammar Schools, Rosemary Secondary Modern Boys' School, and Mount Street and Skellingthorpe Road Primary Schools, have now their own kitchen dining rooms. The Central Kitchens at Saxilby, St. Giles, Boultham and South Bar continued to serve the remainder of the Primary and Secondary Modern Schools and the Technical College and School of Art.

The supply of pasteurised milk in one-third pint bottles under the scheme of the Milk Marketing Board was continued during the year in all schools.

All milk supplied after 1st August, 1946, has been free to children.

The number of bottles supplied during the year ended 31st December, 1949, was 1,547,229 as compared with 1,533,586 for the year 1948.

### HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

#### Partially Sighted.

4 children are in special schools.

Yorkshire School for the Blind	..	..	..	..	1
Birmingham Royal Institution	..	..	..	..	2
Chorley Wood School for the Blind	..	..	..	..	1

#### Deaf and Dumb.

4 children are in special schools.

Royal School for the Deaf, Derby	..	..	..	..	4
----------------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

#### Deaf.

5 children are in special schools.

Royal School for the Deaf, Derby	..	..	..	..	5
----------------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

#### Delicate.

89 children are in the Open Air School.

Lincoln Open Air School	..	..	..	..	89
-------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

#### Educationally subnormal.

27 children are in special schools.

St. Christopher's, Lincoln	..	..	..	..	26
All Souls' School, Hillingdon	..	..	..	..	1

#### Physically Handicapped.

2 girls suffering from Spastic Paraplegia are in special schools.

Halliwick Cripples School	..	..	..	..	2
---------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

At the end of the year the following Handicapped Pupils were awaiting admission to special schools.

Partially sighted	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Delicate	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Educationally subnormal	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Maladjusted	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

#### Notifications to the Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

4 children were notified under Section 57 (3) of the Education Act, 1944.

### DEFECTIVE SPEECH.

The services of a Speech Therapist were not available during 1949, as the Speech Therapist employed by the Education Authority resigned her post in August, 1948, and it has not yet been possible to obtain the services of another Speech Therapist.

### CHILD GUIDANCE CENTRE.

The Psychiatric Social Worker left on 31st July, 1948, and the Educational Psychologist left in February, 1949.

On account of this, the work of the Child Guidance Centre was discontinued during the Spring Term of 1949. Both posts have remained unfilled during the rest of the year.

The services of the Consultant Psychiatrist were, however, available for special cases.

The report of the work of the Child Guidance Centre up to the closure of the clinic in February, 1949, is set out in the report of the Education Committee for the year ended 31st July, 1949.

### NURSERY SCHOOLS.

Under the Education Authority's Scheme ..	2
---	---

The average and total attendees during the year were as follows:—

	Average attend.	Total attend.
St. Cuthbert's Nursery School ..	42.17	16,994
St. Giles Nursery School ..	40.71	16,488

### OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

This School provides accommodation for 90 children.

There were 89 children attending the Open Air School in December, 1949.

Of the pupils discharged last year, the average increase in weight during the period of attendance at the Open Air School was:—

Boys, 9.8 lbs.	Girls, 18.5 lbs.
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while the average duration of attendance was:—

Boys, 19.5 months.	Girls, 25.7 months.
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These results are very satisfactory.

The standard of attendance is again good, 84.5% as against 85.5% last year.

### THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS' ACT, 1933.

179 children were examined for Employment before School hours as compared with 13 in the previous year.

### HEALTH EDUCATION.

The School Medical and Nursing Staff continued to take all opportunities to instruct parents in general hygiene during the year.

### SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

The first portion of the new Skellingthorpe Road County Infant's School, accommodating 240 children, was opened in May, 1949.

There were no special alterations or additions in the accommodation at the other schools during the year.



